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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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<b>COUNTRY</b>	China	<b>REPORT</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Black Market in Shanghai	<b>DATE DISTR.</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> December 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
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 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. In Shanghai there is a black market for scarce items in the area near Nanking and Szechuan Roads. The black market operators are the owners of street stalls which sell inexpensive general merchandise. Black market items are not on display; but, upon request from an individual whom he knows, the black market operator leaves his stall and usually returns shortly with the desired item. No receipt is given the purchaser although, according to Shanghai law, the issuance of receipts for all sales by merchants is mandatory.
2. Some of the items in short supply in Shanghai and their prices on the Shanghai black market are as follows:
  - a. Copper wire, gauge 38 SWG, which sells for JMP 240,000 a pound. The official price is JMP 120,000.
  - b. Radio tube type 6V6, which sells for JMP 250,000 a tube.
  - c. Radio rectifier tube type 5Y3, which sells for JMP 150,000.

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